

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 600

By Casada

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor the Nichols Jersey Farm
in Nolensville as a Tennessee Century Farm.

WHEREAS, the history, traditions, and unique culture of our great State that we relish are truly sacred and worthy of our most noble efforts to document and preserve them as sacrosanct artifacts of our past and use them as path stones that let us daily trod in the perpetuity of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in 1975, the State of Tennessee, through the Department of Agriculture, created the Tennessee Century Farms Program. The program's specific purpose is recognizing and documenting the contributions of families who have owned and farmed the same land for at least 100 years; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University assumed the responsibility of the program and now documents at least one Century Farm in all of Tennessee's ninety-five counties; and

WHEREAS, over the course of the program's thirty-year existence, 1,507 farms have been certified by the Tennessee Century Farms Program; of those, 157 are documented to be 200 years old, 634 are 150 years old, and 716 are over 100 years old; and

WHEREAS, one family farm recently designated as a Century Farm is the Nichols Jersey Farm located at 2006 Kidd Road in Nolensville; and

WHEREAS, Benjah and Mary Jane McFarlin founded the farm in 1909. On it, they grew corn, wheat, and oats as primary crops. The family also operated a grist mill, a saw mill, and a general store on the property, which made the McFarlin farm a popular gathering place in the community through the 1940s; and

WHEREAS, today, the Nichols Jersey Farm is one of only a few dairy farms in Williamson County. Third-generation proprietors Herbert Nichols and his son, Mark, work the land, continue milk production, and raise cattle and hay; and

WHEREAS, this legislative body is pleased to recognize the excellent work of the Tennessee Century Farms Program, and we congratulate the owners of Nichols Jersey Farm upon its recognition as such; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate Herbert and Mark Nichols upon the designation of Nichols Jersey Farm as a Tennessee Century Farm, and extend our best wishes to them for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.